

REMARKS

The statement by the Examiner that claims 5, 7, 8, 11, 13-15, 22-24, 26, 27, 32, 34, 35, 38, 40-42, 46, 47, 49, 50 and 53 contain allowable subject matter is gratefully acknowledged. Office Action, p. 3.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 17, 22, 28, 31, 32, 34 and 44 have been amended. Claims 2, 3, 6, 9-12, 16, 18-21, 25, 29, 30, 33, 36-39, 43, 45, 48 and 52 have been canceled to further the prosecution of the application. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 13-15, 17, 22-24, 26-28, 31, 32, 34, 35, 40-42, 44, 46, 47, 49-51 and 53 are pending in the present application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this application and in other applications.

Claims 4, 10, 31 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 4 and 31 have been amended. The concern raised in the Office Action has been addressed by the amendments to claims 4 and 31. Claims 10 and 37 have been cancelled. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Claims 1-4, 6, 9, 12, 16-21, 25, 28-31, 33, 36, 39, 43-45, 48 and 52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,757,189 to Hung et al. ("Hung"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites "an array architecture for a memory device, comprising a memory cell block comprising an even number of memory cells." According to claim 1, "said memory cells" comprise "variable resistance memory elements." According to the Office Action, claim 1 as amended recites allowable subject matter. Office Action, p. 3 (original claim 11 would be allowable if written in independent form). For at least this reason, claim 1 is allowable over Hung. Claim 4, which depends from claim 1, is also allowable for at least the reason set forth in the Office Action and on its own merits.

Claim 17 recites “a memory device comprising: at least a first memory cell; at least a second memory cell . . . wherein said memory cells comprise variable resistance memory elements.” According to the Office Action, claim 17 as amended recites allowable subject matter. Office Action, p. 3 (original claim 11 would be allowable if written in independent form). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 is allowable over Hung.

Claim 28 recites “a processor system, comprising: a memory circuit, comprising a memory cell block having a plurality of memory cells . . . wherein said memory cells comprise variable resistance memory elements.” According to the Office Action, claim 28 as amended recites allowable subject matter. Office Action, p. 3 (original claim 38 would be allowable if written in independent form). For at least this reason, claim 28 is allowable over Hung. Claim 31, which depends from claim 28, is also allowable for at least the reason set forth in the Office Action and on its own merits.

Claim 44 recites “a method of reading stored data, comprising: forming an electrical circuit between an addressed memory cell and a second memory cell . . . wherein said memory cells comprise variable resistance memory elements.” According to the Office Action, claim 44 as amended recites allowable subject matter. Office Action, p. 3 (original claim 38 would be allowable if written in independent form). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 44 is allowable over Hung.

For at least the reasons set forth above, claims 1, 4, 17, 28, 31 and 44 are allowable over Hung. Claims 2, 3, 6, 9-12, 16, 18-21, 25, 29, 30, 33, 36-39, 43, 45, 48 and 52 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn and claims 1, 4, 17, 28, 31 and 44 allowed.

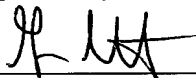
Claims 5, 7, 8, 11, 13-15, 22-24, 26, 27, 32, 34, 35, 38, 40-42, 46, 47, 49, 50 and 53 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are otherwise allowable.

Claims 5, 7, 8 and 13-15 are allowable as they depend from claim 1, which is believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth above. Similarly, dependent claims 22-24, 26 and 27 are allowable as they depend from claim 17, which is believed to be allowable. Dependent claims 32, 34, 35 and 40-42 are allowable as they depend from claim 28, which is believed to be allowable. Dependent claims 46, 47, 49-51 and 53 are allowable as they depend from claim 44, which is believed to be allowable. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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